

OHUI PĀNUI



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- New Heat Pumps | Wish List

We’ve made it through another winter surrounded by the warmth of the community, and the moments we’ve shared. We’re truly grateful for your continued support – it’s what keeps the hall thriving and community strong

Stephanie Noa,
OHUI, Chairperson



192

Members

312

Mailing List

55

Bookings
Since Jan 2025



Matariki Celebrations

MAANAWATIA A MATARIKI
After last year’s success, word of mouth worked it’s magic and more of the community turned out in force to enjoy a great get together and delicious hangi. It’s a bright spot in the dark of winter.

Maori New Year celebrations are becoming a new tradition in the hall. In the spirit of togetherness and cooperation, the community gathered to collect food, prepare it and then share the feast. The traditions of Matariki and laying down of the hangi were shared with the people of Opoutere.





Matariki Hangi

The full scope of the community from young to old all lent a hand- even young travelers got to make fry bread and share the experience. It was a beautiful winters day with a very welcoming an open hearted atmosphere that is helping to bind the community together. Meals were prepared and delivered to the community, spreading the spirit of Matariki far and wide.



Photo: Hangi pit, surrounded by community.



Photo: WWOOFers help with cooking fry bread.

Huge thanks to the community for generous koha and food donations. Every bit counts and makes us feel part of this place and connected to our hall. We so appreciate all the helpers, hangi team, prep team, servers, dishwashers and organizers who make this possible, We are grateful for the opportunity to build bonds and use the hall for a great inclusive event. We look forward to celebrating Matariki again next year, to honour the past, cherish the present, and embrace the year.

Invitation to get Involved

Are you passionate about making a difference and helping to restore our community hall? Consider joining our mailing list or volunteering your time and skills to community support events.

Bookings | Hall for Hire

Hall occupancy is now set at **99 people**.. Bookings will still only be accepted around planned works. Please check our website [calendar](#) for hall availability.

Jane Mabbott Photography

The beautiful Opoutere photography on our website and in our newsletter was captured by and gifted to us by local photographer Jane Mabbott. Any enquires for purchasing these images can be sent to Jane, via Facebook.

Hall Hire Information

Hall Hire Information can be found online <https://www.opouterehall.co.nz/blog/> Newsletters are also posted in the blog! Please read the hall hire terms and conditions when you get a moment.



Locally Led Initiatives

Welcome to new season full of exciting opportunities to learn, grow, and connect is here. We're putting a big emphasis on local hire and regular weekly, fortnightly and monthly bookings - if you've been thinking about getting involved, now's the perfect time!

Te Reo Māori classes with Maringirangi, Monday's 5pm. Come along for welcoming and engaging te reo Māori sessions. Whether you're just beginning or looking to strengthen your reo, these classes are a great place to start or continue your journey.

Youth Group in Opoutere kicked off on Tuesday, 21 October, and will return every second Tuesday of the school term from 6-8pm. This is volunteer-led and locally delivered. Offering a welcoming space where young people could come for the fun, build friendships, and enjoy a safe space to be themselves. Ages 13+ welcome.

Community attendance plays a vital role in sustaining these initiatives and building a strong, connected community. These gatherings offer a meaningful space to connect, grow, and create lasting memories. Let's work together to finish the year strong

He Whakatauki | A Proverb

"E rere te huata, kapohia!"

Make the most of every opportunity!

TCDC Bathroom Project

The long awaited bathroom upgrades are finally complete. The Thames Coromandel District Council (TCDC) has worked tirelessly with us to bring this to fruition. Their commitment to creating better, more accessible public facilities has made an enormous difference to the hall. Special thanks to **Steve Greene**, Properties and Facilities TCDC and **Georgia Nugent** TCDC project manager for their commitment and patience in co-ordination this project.



Photo: New entrance foyer looking out from main hall



Bathroom Project continued..

Unisex bathrooms and an accessible bathroom have replaced the cramped old toilets and urinal. There is also a changing table for parents to use. The fresh new look extends out to the entrance foyer with the new safety fire doors. Storage has moved to the rear of the building and no longer clutters the entrance.



Photo: New entrance looking in from the front door,



Photo: The old female toilets converted into storage room

The renovations have meant the hall was not open during the build for health and safety reasons - as it was turned over to TCDC. While it was hard to close the hall, we trust the community will see the results were totally worth it. Further improvements were an updated hot water system which will improve capacity - especially in the event of a civil emergency.

Starlink Internet

Our rural location often means reception can be unreliable. Luckily an option for us to stay connected has come to fruition. Wi-Fi is available at the hall to all who need it. All thanks to funding from **The Lottery Grants Board**.

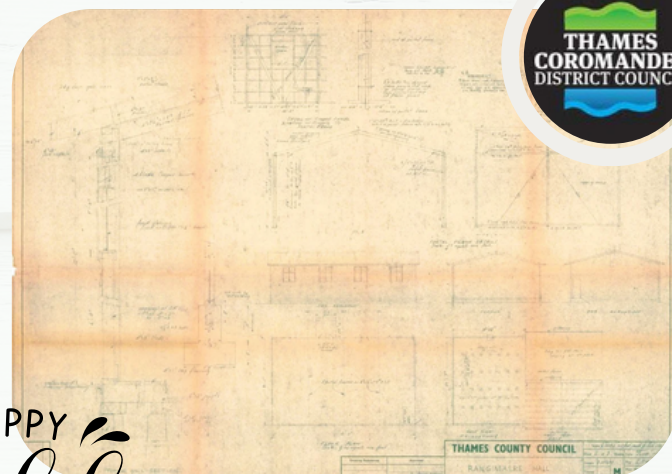
Username : Opoutere Hall
Password: 1OpoutereRd





Our 60th Celebration!

This year marks a proud milestone for the Hall as we celebrate 60 years of service. Since its opening, the hall has been a gathering place for generations– hosting events, celebrations, meetings, and countless memories. This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our community, past and present, who have worked hard to maintain and support this cherished space. Here's to six decades of connection, and to many more to come!



HAPPY
Birthday

Hall Wish List

- Insulation
- Window Blinds
- Storage Spaces
- Parking Upgrades
- Access Upgrades
- Kitchen Cabinetry
- Double Glaze Windows
- Open Plan Outdoor Area
- New Entry and Driveway
- Septic System Upgrades

\$350,000.00



Pub Charity Project

Our new PA system is available for use during your public or private meetings and events. Improved sound systems will make it easier for everyone to hear and engage in discussions. For smooth operation, detailed instructions on how to use the PA system are posted on the hall noticeboard. Please take a moment to familiarize yourself these before use. We hope this assistive technology project enhances your hall experience.





Hall Gets Cozy Upgrade

The **Whangamatā Community Board** granted \$3,000 to support the installation of new heat pumps, to make a significant difference in creating a warmer, more comfortable space. TCDC **Steve Greene** contributed another \$2000 and we matched their generosity with our own \$5000 contribution. Our new heat pumps were installed and completed by **Cool Electric Thames**. We're incredibly grateful to our local Board and TCDC for their support—this project will have a lasting impact, especially ensuring the hall in operational all you around! We truly appreciate it. Our cozy, warm, welcoming venue is available for anyone keen to share their talents, skills, or passions with others – whether it's art, music, fitness, crafts, or something new. We want to make it easy for the community to connect, learn, and create together, so there's no cost barrier to using the space. Gather your group, start something special, and keep our community humming through out the year!



2025 Annual General Meeting

At our recent AGM, the current committee was unanimously re-elected, with all existing members continuing in their roles. All are excited to resume commitment to the hall and community. We're also excited to welcome Fran Ravenhall, who was elected as a new committee member. Fran brings fresh energy to a team with deep experience, and we're thrilled to have her on board. There are no changes to the membership subscription this year, keeping things simple and accessible for everyone. Here's to another great year ahead!

OHUI Committee Members

Opoutere Hall United Inc 2025 elected committee members.

- Stephanie Noa - Chairperson
- Margot Nicholson - Vice Chairperson
- Michelle Barclay - Secretary
- Annabel Campbell - Treasurer
- Jennifer Edwards - Committee
- Fran Ravenhall - Committee





Community Invitation to a Book Launch

Come and enjoy afternoon tea at the Opoutere Hall on Sunday 26th October (Labour Weekend Sunday) to help launch **"Wharekawa to Opoutere and Ohui"**, the brand new book from Opoutere resident Dr Louise Furey. The book contains memories, stories and photographs of the area that locals have shared with Louise over many years. The book describes the history of settlement of the Wharekawa River valley from the 1880s and covers the history of original land purchases; significant events for the community; early families, many of whom still remain connected with the area today; kauri logging; gold mining; gum digging; the history of Opoutere School; and the establishment of the pine forest. At 156 pages, with maps and over 100 images this is a comprehensive account of the district. Louise has compiled a wonderful slideshow of photographs (more than could be included in the book itself) that will play while afternoon tea proceeds. The book will be on sale at the launch for \$40 and while we hope to have EFTPOS available Cash that would be ideal.

Following the launch you'll be able to buy it at local outlets or directly from ORRA (email opouterehistory@gmail.com to place an order). It is the ideal Christmas present for all those who love this special part of the world!

Join us as we congratulate Louise on this important contribution to local history.

When: Sunday 26 October, 3-5pm
Where: Opoutere Community Hall



Contact Details

opouterehall@gmail.com

1 Opoutere Road
 Opoutere 3691

Facebook | Website



OHUI Key Dates

October 25	Wharekawa Catchment Care AGM
October 26	Dr Louise Furey Book Launch
November 3rd	Te Reo Māori with Maringirangi
November 4th	Opoutere Hall Youth Group
TBC	Community Working Bee

